

citizen deserves the right to be heard. The First Amendment to the Constitution, to which we all pay homage, singles out a few basic rights for particular emphasis, and one of those is the right to petition for the redress of grievances. Mrs. Exe chooses to do so, and as her Representative in Congress, I am pleased to be able to do my constitutional duty and insert her petition at this point in the RECORD.

Bridgewater Mass., January 21, 1998.

CONGRESSMAN BARNEY FRANK,

DEAR SIR, My husband, John B. Exe, United States navy, retired, served his country with honor and dedication and retired after 20 years service. During my husband service he took out the FRA insurance plan. He was told by the navy that should he pay high premiums in the event of his death his widow would not have to pay any further insurance premiums.

My husband had great love for his country and the navy. Therefore he believed that his country would honor the pledge they made to him and other service men.

Shortly after my husband's death I received my first insurance premium, due and payable. Upon making enquiries I was told the funding had run out. Later I was told by a representative of FRA that the navy had told them to stop paying widows and to put funding into HMO's. This is a lie still being told our service men and retirees. In other words our service men do not deserve the truth. Once again this country has broken faith.

Should this happen in Bosnia, Iraq, Mongolia the United States would call this genocide. I call what the United States has done genocide against widows of service men in the United States.

A US judge ruled that retirees can sue the government for breaking the promise of free lifetime health care.

Now as usual the navy has once again proved inept with the closure of military bases dependents now have to go to an outside pharmaceutical CO. Which has not been organized completely a dependent obtaining meds through mail order often have to wait two to three weeks. God help our heart patients. Also, after submitting prescriptions which are being returned due to changes which are not notified of this causes another wait for the patient. It would appear the navy had knowledge and plenty of time to organize instead of which they appear to create confusion and more disorganization.

Does anyone really care my words are just a whisper, but I am sure they will eventually become a loud roar. And many more people will become aware of tactics which the government and United States Navy have done their best to keep secret.

The genocide to our retirees and their families must **STOP!!!**

The buck stops here gentlemen. It is now **YOUR** responsibility. I will be very surprised but very interested to obtain a response.

I am 73 years of age. I would like to see changes in what time I have left.

LYNNE EXE.

SUPPORT FOR H.R. 1995

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 1998

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, the Point Reyes National Seashore Farmland Protection Act, H.R. 1995, is a unique solution to a grow-

ing problem in our country—How do we protect disappearing farmland while simultaneously protecting our natural resources?

Keeping local farms in agriculture is absolutely essential to local economies across the country, and California's Sixth Congressional District is a prime example. Approximately, 167,000 acres—half of Marin County's total land—are farms or ranches. In Sonoma County, 40 percent of the 1.2 million acres of land is agriculture. The majority of this farmland is divided into small third and fourth generation family-owned operations. Of the 285 agricultural operations currently in Marin County, 78 are considered large farms (annual gross income of \$100,000 or more), and 207 are considered small or mini-farms. The average farm size is 588 acres.

By authorizing the purchase of agricultural conservation easements, H.R. 1995 allows willing landowners to receive compensation for keeping their farms in agriculture. At the same time, the lands remain on the tax rolls, and private property rights are protected. The majority of local landowners support this bill—including Joe and Doris Mendoza.

POINT REYES STATION, CA,

November 7, 1997.

Hon. JAMES HANSEN,

Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands,

U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. HANSEN: We are writing in support of Lynn Woolsey's legislation H.R. 1995, the Point Reyes National Seashore Farmland Protection Act. We operate a 500-cow dairy on the "Historic B Ranch" located on the Point Reyes peninsula which became part of the Point Reyes National Seashore when it was authorized in 1962. We have enjoyed a favorable tenant/landlord relationship with the National Park Service for over 25 years, and have operated a viable business partnership with our son during that period.

We reinvested our proceeds from the sale of the "B" Ranch in 2,300 acres of land on the east side of Tomales Bay. This property lies within the boundary of the Farmland Protection Act. Lynn Woolsey has worked very diligently to write this legislation in a manner to address the concerns of the agricultural land owners while protecting the interests of the people of the United States and their investment in the lands of the Park.

We feel that this innovative concept protects the land from development for the benefit of the park while providing for agriculture's need of a "critical mass". It leaves the land in private ownership and on the local tax rolls. Win! Win! We also greatly support the principle of using a local land trust to administer this arrangement.

Please enter our support of H.R. 1995.

Sincerely,

J.H. MENDOZA, SR.
DORIS S. MENDOZA.

OVERRIDE OF MILITARY CONSTRUCTION LINE-ITEM VETOES

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to praise our colleagues in the Senate for successfully overriding the veto of H.R. 2631, which will restore all 38 Military Construction projects canceled by the President late last year.

As Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, I have visited U.S. bases at home and around the world and I have been shocked at the deplorable working and living conditions we are asking our soldiers and their families to endure. The Military Construction Bill funds family housing as well as construction of troop barracks, hospital and medical facilities, schools and child-care centers for military personnel and their families stationed here and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, the fact is, we did our homework and crafted a responsible bill. Every project in this bill meets a validated military requirement and every project is executable this fiscal year. The bill we sent to the President was \$610 million less than last year's bill and almost \$2 billion less than the level just two years ago. That is hardly wasteful spending.

I have long supported the line-item veto authority and Congress' responsibility to correct the President's mistakes when he makes them. Within two days of vetoing 38 items on the Military Construction Bill, the Administration admitted it made mistakes on two cancellations. Hours later, that number was up to eleven and then eighteen. The line-item veto is a powerful tool and Congress must ensure that this new authority is held to the highest possible standard.

The line-item veto can be a useful tool if it is used fairly, carefully and responsibly. Mr. Speaker, we sent a strong message yesterday that Congress will accept nothing less.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NANCY LEE HINDS

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nancy Lee Hinds, the founder of Hinds' Hospice Home Foundation in Fresno, for being recognized with the Social Action Award. Nancy Lee Hinds has dedicated her life to the dying and their families, and is very deserving of this honor.

The award for Social Action is named annually by Temple Beth Israel for works on the diocesan and community levels. The award recognizes the long practice of Christian virtues. Nancy Lee Hinds was chosen for this award based on both her current work and her instrumental efforts to have hospices recognized throughout the state.

Nancy Hinds' Hospice Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides care for those who have life limiting illnesses and no further medical treatment available. Hinds' Hospice Foundation has cared for patients that range in age from 3 months to 103 years. The Hospice Foundation also provides outpatient care that involves volunteers caring for patients in their own homes. Outpatient volunteers also perform such duties as yard work, grocery shopping, and haircutting.

Nancy Lee Hinds was born and educated in Cleveland, Ohio. There she received a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. In 1970, she married Godfrey Hinds, a missionary doctor in Ireland. In 1977, her husband died of cancer in Northern Ireland. Following the death of her husband, Nancy opened her arms and doors to the dying and has been

dedicating her life to caring for them ever since.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Nancy Lee Hinds for unselfishly dedicating her life to helping others. It is the leadership and care exhibited by Nancy Lee Hinds that warrants this recognition. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Nancy Lee Hinds many more years of success.

CONGRATULATING COURTNEY H. MANK ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S. AIR FORCE

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 1998

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Colonel Courtney H. Mank on his July retirement from the United States Air Force. I hope Members will join with me today to thank Colonel Mank for his contributions to the U.S. Air Force, his community and the country. A graduate of Killeen High School in Killeen, Texas in 1964, Colonel Mank earned a bachelor's degree in education from Southwest Texas State University in 1968. In 1977, he completed his master's degree in personnel management from Webster College.

He received a commission as a second lieutenant through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1968, and was assigned as chief of security police at Laughlin AFB, Texas.

In June 1970, Colonel Mank was transferred to Cam Ranh Bay, Republic of Vietnam, where he served as base defense officer. He returned to the United States in June 1971, and was assigned as commander of the 58th Security Police Squadron, Luke AFB, Arizona.

Colonel Mank's selection as an Air Staff Training Officer in June 1972 resulted in an assignment to Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Office of the Inspector General for Security Police, Washington, D.C. The following year, he was assigned to Langley AFB, Virginia, inspection team. In March 1975, Colonel Mank was assigned to the Air Force Military Personnel Center, Randolph AFB, Texas, as a career management staff officer and executive officer.

In February 1979, Colonel Mank was assigned to the Alaskan Air Command Security Police Staff, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, as chief of the operations branch. While at Elmendorf, the colonel assumed command of the 21st SPS in March 1980. Colonel Mank was then assigned as chief of security police, Headquarters, Air Defense, Tactical, Langley AFB, Virginia, in February 1982. In July 1984, he was transferred to Holloman AFB, New Mexico, assuming command of the 833rd SPS. After transferring to Ramstein Air Base, Germany, in August 1986, Colonel Mank became chief of the physical security division, deputy chief of staff, security police, Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

He later transferred to Headquarters Electronic Security Command, Kelly AFB, Texas, as the chief of security police.

In July 1991, the colonel became commander of the 857th Security Police Group, Minot AFB, North Dakota. Colonel Mank assumed his current position on June 1, 1993.

The colonel's military decorations and awards include the Legion of Merit; Bronze

Star Medal; Meritorious Service Medal with seven oak leaf clusters; Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with "V" device and one oak leaf cluster; National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal with two service stars; Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with palm device; and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

The singularly distinctive accomplishments of Colonel Mank culminate a long and distinguished career in the service of his country and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

I ask members to join me in wishing Colonel Mank the very best as he returns to Killeen, Texas upon his retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WOMEN'S HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 1998

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 1998

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing today the Women's Higher Education Opportunity Act of 1998. I am particularly pleased that nine of my colleagues have joined me as original cosponsors of this bill. They include: Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mrs. LOWEY, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mrs. MORELLA, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. SCHUMER.

This is a very important piece of legislation, and I am very hopeful that many of its provisions will be incorporated in the legislation reauthorizing the Higher Education Act.

As the ranking minority member on the Postsecondary Education Subcommittee, I intend to do more than simply voice support for the provisions of this bill. I will do whatever I can to see many of its provisions find their way into the reauthorization bill upon which we are now working.

With respect to the bill's student aid provisions, I believe it is critically important that part-time students continue to be eligible for both Pell Grant and campus-based student aid. Many of the part-time students in college today are women who work, raise a family and attend college on a part-time basis. It is important, therefore, that if eligible, they can obtain federal student aid. They should not be disqualified simply because they are not full-time students.

If they have children who need to be cared for while they are in school, it is equally important that they receive satisfactory dependent care allowance. We would propose, therefore, that the allowance of \$750 in current law be doubled, to \$1500.

In current law, we also have a requirement that at least 5% of the campus-based aid go to part-time students where they make up at least 5% of the institution's student enrollment. We are well above this requirement in the SEOG, College Work Study and Perkins Loan programs. While a specific statutory percentage requirement may no longer be necessary, we must nevertheless remain vigilant in making sure that these campus-based aid programs continue to aid the part-time student in a fair and equitable manner.

It is also clear that we should go beyond the necessary student aid changes and establish

a discretionary grant program that would provide more extensive on-campus child care services. This would help low-income parents more readily pursue a college education by providing child care services on the campus of the college they are attending.

Last year we celebrated the 25th anniversary of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. This is the law that has done so much to expand college athletic opportunities for American girls and women. It is imperative that we reaffirm our commitment in this area, and that we not retreat from what we have worked so hard to accomplish.

As we develop a teacher training piece in the Higher Education reauthorization, I want to reiterate my commitment to a provision that is especially important to women, and one which is not covered in this particular bill. This involves the need to include in any Higher Education reauthorization bill provisions that will enhance the training of both paraprofessionals and non-certified teachers to become fully certified members of the teaching profession.

We must continue our effort to insure that groups traditionally underrepresented in graduate education, namely women and minorities, have a prominent focus in the reauthorization of these provisions of the Higher Education Act. If the reauthorization bill fails to include such a provision then we must seek passage of an amendment to accomplish that important objective.

And last, but by no means least, we must not only continue but intensify efforts to make sure that the campus is a safe haven for learning. This means a stronger program to combat violence on the college campus and a better, more effective reporting of campus crimes, especially those involving sexual assault.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I have worked closely with the American Association of University Women in formulating this bill. I want to congratulate the Association for its strong commitment in furthering educational opportunity for women, and congratulate the Association staff for the superb work they have done in putting this initiative together. We now face the hard, but enjoyable work of doing whatever we can to incorporate these provisions in the legislation reauthorizing the Higher Education Act.

A TRIBUTE TO STEVE DAHL ON HIS 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVICE FOR LISTENING AUDIENCES OF CHICAGO

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to an outstanding entertainer who has amused and enlightened radio listeners throughout the Chicago community for 20 years, Mr. Steve Dahl.

Mr. Dahl, who recently celebrated 20 years in Chicago broadcasting on February 23, 1998, is a true innovator in modern radio. His rapier wit and tell-it-like-it-is style have kept his listeners glued to their radios for the past two decades. Even though Steve Dahl has changed radio stations throughout the years, one thing has remained constant for Mr. Dahl,